

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE
DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE

LOK SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 2941
TO BE ANSWERED ON THE 18TH MARCH, 2025

FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE FOR ORGANIC FARMING

2941. SHRI BENNY BEHANAN:

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE कृषि एवं किसान कल्याण मंत्री be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Government is willing to increase financial assistance for organic farming, agro-processing units and farmer cooperatives in Kerala, which play a vital role in rural livelihoods;
- (b) whether the Government is engaging in direct consultations with the Kerala State Government and farmer organizations to address their demands and if so, the details of such discussions; and
- (c) whether the Government is considering expanding crop insurance coverage under PM Fasal Bima Yojana (PMFBY) to ensure better risk protection for farmers in Kerala and if so, the details thereof?

ANSWER

THE MINISTER OF STATE FOR AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE

कृषि एवं किसान कल्याण राज्य मंत्री (SHRI RAMNATH THAKUR)

- (a): Government is promoting organic farming in the country through the scheme of Paramparagat Krishi Vikas Yojana (PKVY), a component of Pradhan Mantri- Rashtriya Krishi Vikas Yojana (PM-RKVY) including the State of Kerala. The PKVY scheme provides end-to-end support to organic farmers i.e. from production to processing, certification and marketing in cluster based approach. The primary focus of the scheme is to form organic clusters in a cluster where preference is given to small and marginal farmers to help them to create a supply chain. No such proposal at present to increase financial assistance under the scheme.
- (b): Government of India engages with States and Farmer Producer Organizations (FPOs) regularly for various policy matters.
- (c): Yield index based PMFBY and weather index based Restructured Weather Based Crop Insurance Scheme (RWBCIS) introduced in the country from Kharif 2016 season, is available for all States/UTs and is voluntary for the States as well as farmers. States/UTs are free to subscribe under the scheme keeping in view their risk perception and financial considerations etc. The PMFBY is designed to cover those crops where past yield data of requisite number of years based on Crop Cutting Experiments (CCEs) is available and the

State Government has the capacity to conduct requisite number of CCEs to assess the yield of the crop to calculate claims.

For the crops not meeting the aforesaid conditions, the concerned State Government is free to notify them for coverage under Restructured Weather Based Crop Insurance Scheme (RWBCIS) under which claims payment are being structured on the basis of weather index parameters.

State Government of Kerala implemented both PMFBY and RWBCIS till 2022-23 and opted for RWBCIS only from 2023-24.

Since inception of the PMFBY till 2022-23, 1.23 lakh farmer applications over an area of 0.83 lakh ha. for a sum insured of Rs. 749.25 crore has been insured in Kerala. Claims of Rs. 63.32 crore have been paid to 0.48 lakh farmer applications.

Similarly, Since inception (2016-17) till 2023-24 under RWBCIS, 6.42 lakh farmer applications over an area of 3.36 lakh ha. for a sum insured of Rs. 2228.21 crore has been insured in Kerala. Claims of Rs. 504.29 crore have been paid to 4.10 lakh farmer applications.
